



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF WOODEN MONEY COLLECTORS  
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Suite #109, Toronto Ontario M5V 3S5 Canada**

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### *President's Message*

We still have not received any nominations to replace Art Stephenson as Vice President. If you are willing to stand for Vice President please contact me at the contact points shown below. It would be beneficial, but not required, that anyone who is willing to stand for VP should also be willing to run for election as President when I stand down in a year or so. Regular attendance at our annual meetings would also be beneficial, but again not required. Please consider letting your name stand for the V. P. Position.

I have been very busy these last few weeks. I had the pleasure of volunteering at the Brier Canadian Curling Championships, even though I was recovering from a bad case of the flu. The volunteering was fun but time consuming and I did not get a chance to work on membership receipts and cards. I should be working on the cards shortly and will be distributing them as outlined in the paragraph below. If you have queries re your membership status you can contact me by mail, at Al Munro, Box 2643 Station M, Calgary, Alberta, Canada, T2P 3C1, by phone at 403-273-6133 or by email at [wood5cents@shaw.ca](mailto:wood5cents@shaw.ca).

You will be receiving your receipts and membership cards in the following manner:

Those that I see personally on a regular basis will receive them from me.

Those who see Ross Kingdon on a regular basis will receive their cards and receipts from Ross in the near future.

Those who do not see Ross or myself on a regular basis and still receive a hard copy will have their receipts and cards mailed with a future bulletin.

Those who do not see Ross or myself on a regular basis and receive their bulletin electronically will have their receipts and cards mailed to them shortly.

I would like to remind you that It is not too soon to start making reservation for the annual C.N.A. convention this August in Edmonton. I encourage you to attend this outstanding show and to plan to attend our annual C.A.W.M.C. breakfast meeting on the Sunday of the convention. Also as indicated in last month's President's message my wife and I will be hosting a barbecue for CAWMC members and spouses at our cabin 40 miles west of Edmonton and all C.A.W.M.C. members and their spouses who are in Edmonton that evening are invited. Details will follow in a later bulletin. Both of these events will be a great opportunity to meet fellow collectors and do some friendly trading. If you plan on issuing a "wood" for this convention please order them shortly to give the manufacturers sufficient time to produce your order for you.

Our annual meeting is an opportunity to honour members who have put forth extraordinary effort to support our hobby. If you would like to nominate someone as a potential recipient of an award please advise me at one of the contact points shown above.

Good luck in your collecting activities.

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### *APRIL 2009 Editors Comments Timber Talk*

As we approach the last gasps of winter's fury, it is time to plan for coin shows this spring and summer. I am hoping to find my way to Kitchener in April and to Edmonton in August. It is not too early to be planning woods to issue for these events. Your club publication still needs articles. I invite all members to write up their favorite wood, or write about why they enjoy the hobby. I would be remiss if I failed to profusely thank Norm Belsten for his help in getting Timber Talk ready for distribution under a tight deadline. I hope you join me in welcoming contributor Lou Vesh back to these pages. We will see more of Lou's work over the coming months.

Enjoy your hobby. Share your enthusiasm!

**PAST PRESIDENTS:**

Garry Braunwarth: 1975 - 1977

Victor Hall: 1977 - 1979 \*

Don Robb: 1979 - 1981

Stanley Clute: 1981 - 1983

Neil Probert: 1983 - 1985

Norm Belsten: 1985 - 1991

Pat White: 1991 - 1995 \*

Lou Vesh: 1995 - 2001

Earl Salterio: 2001 - 2003 \*

Norm Belsten: 2003 - 2005

(\* Deceased)

***FREE WOOD OF THE MONTH***

Free wood this month was donated by the Calgary Numismatic Society. They had 500 made for their show and donated some to C.A.W.M.C. for distribution in Timber Talk as they have done for the last several years.



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**CAWMC OFFICERS**

President: AL MUNRO

Vice-president: OPEN

Secretary-Treasurer and Membership Chairman:  
AL MUNROPast-President and Chairman of the Board of  
Governors: NORM BELSTENElected Members of the Board of Governors:  
BOB BROWN, RUSSELL BROWN,  
DAVE GILLESPIE, ED MacPHERSON,  
LOU VESH, JAMES WILLISTON.**APPOINTED OFFICERS**

Editor: TONY HINE

Distribution-Canada: ROSS KINGDON

Distribution-US: RICHARD BLAYLOCK

Fund Raiser: LOU VESH &amp; DAVE GILLESPIE

Auction coordinator: AL MUNRO

**DUES:**Membership dues in the Canadian Association  
Of Wooden Money Collectors are:

Canadian Residents: \$10.00 Canadian Funds

United States Residents: \$10.00 U.S. Funds

International Members Rate (outside of Canada

And the U.S.): \$20.00 Canadian Funds

Youth (16 years of age and under): \$5.00

Dues paid to Mr. Al Munro, Box 2643

Stn. 'M' Calgary, AB, Canada T2P 3C1

**NEW MEMBER THIS MONTH**

Judy Blackman, 505 Redfox Rd. Waterloo, ON. N2K 2V6

**WOODEN MONEY MEETING**

The Southern Ontario Chapter of Canadian Association of Wooden Money Collectors will be holding a meeting at 2:00pm on Saturday April 25th during the Ontario Numismatic Association Convention at the Holiday Inn Conference Centre, Kitchener, Ontario. We will have a short meeting followed by an auction and everyone is invited to attend and bring a friend. This is your chance to see what Wooden Money collecting is all about, and maybe pickup a few pieces at the same time. I will be presenting a talk on woods that I think will be of interest to a lot of collectors. So make it a point to attend. Hope to see you there.

Norm Belsten C45

## THE WOODEN NICKEL INVENTORY OF HARVEY FARROW

by John Regitko, CAWMC Member #265

### His Background

Harvey Farrow passed away suddenly at his home on January 18, 2001. A memorial service was held on February 15. The hobby was represented by 10 collectors, including Paul Petch, at the time President of the North York Coin Club, which Harvey considered his “home” club. He was pre-deceased by his parents Godfrey and Hazel Farrow (Harvey was only 6 months old when his father passed away).



In his 63rd year, he received his education at Variety Village where he also learned to cope with his physical abilities that were the result of a birth defect. His determination to succeed at whatever he chose to do was evident even in his childhood because one of his “hobbies” was going for longer walks around Toronto. He could be seen most weekends walking along Danforth Avenue to take in the sights of Greektown, or attend some event being held in the Canadian National Exhibition grounds.

Following his education at Variety Village, he obtained employment at Remington Rand where he was responsible for accounts receivables and credit & collection. I was also employed by Remington Rand for over 25 years, ever since I graduated from school. Although I had met Harvey numerous times at the Toronto and North York Coin Clubs, when I was hired by Remington I was not aware that Harvey worked there. I ran into him about a week after I started when I ventured from my 7th floor office to be introduced to the people in accounting on the 5th floor. Small world sometimes.

After more than 25 years, he joined All-Comp Supplies & Services Ltd., which I owned. Harvey was responsible for looking after all of the company’s accounting functions, including invoicing, accounts receivable, accounts payable, inventory control, banking and financial record keeping. As an aside, all employees of All-Comp were involved in the hobby. Jacquie Miller, who was the daughter of the late Eric Miller, owner of Coin-Militaria Mart which operated out of the Sheppard Centre two blocks away from All-Comp, worked with me for a number of years. She and Larry Sontagh, another employee of All-Comp, always assisted me in running the Toronto International Coin Fair (TICF) which I owned and operated. With great teamwork, we turned TICF into Canada’s largest coin show with more dealers than anyone else. We offered complimentary meeting space to organizations. The Canadian Tire Coupon Collectors Club held their founding meeting at one of the TICFs.

An avid hockey fan and season ticket holder, Harvey could be found every Saturday evening cheering for his favorite team, the Toronto Maple Leafs. He could also be found at a number of local area coin clubs, including the North York, Oshawa, Thistletown and Scarborough Coin Clubs, as well as Markham Village and Richmond Hill Coin Clubs when they were in operation. He could be found at every ONA Convention since the ONA’s very beginning, as well as at virtually all CNA Conventions regardless where across Canada they were held.

He received his start in numismatics when his mother and her best friend, Louise Graham, introduced him to the Toronto Coin Club. While Mrs. Graham went on to become the President of the Toronto Coin Club and the North York Coin Club, as well as President and Executive Secretary of the Canadian Numismatic Association, Harvey also became involved with the organizational aspect of the hobby in a big way. One of his early volunteer positions was long-time Treasurer of the Toronto Coin Club during the times when Louis Graham and I were President of the club.

His history with the North York Coin Club had been long and extensive. At the time of his death, he was the North York Coin Club’s Treasurer, a position he had held for over 25 years. He also served the club as President, Receptionist, and Social Convenor. He represented the Club as its official delegate at numerous annual ONA and CNA Conventions. For his hard work and dedication, he was made an Honorary Life Member by the club. Just prior to his passing, he agreed to take over as Treasurer of the Mississauga-Thistletown Coin Club.

As John Regitko stated at the eulogy at Harvey’s memorial service: “Harvey was determined to do the best possible in whatever he was involved with, be it in business or in his hobby. He was as dependable and accurate as anyone else I have ever known.”





### Harvey Farrow's Wooden Nickels

Kent Farrow, who held the Power of Attorney over Harvey's property, asked me to review his numismatic holdings and set a value for estate probate purposes, as well as to recommend its eventual disposition. One of the things that Kent agreed to was to donate all of Harvey's wooden tokens and presentation certificates to the North York Coin Club. They were turned over to the North York Coin Club. The inventory was then reviewed by three members that were members of both the NYCC and CAWMC: Norm Belsten, Ron Zelk and myself. The only stipulation that Kent proposed was that most of the material should be given away (such as in door draws).

The inventory of wooden nickels amounted to about 1,800 which he had accumulated over his lifetime of collecting and included personal woods given to him by fellow collectors, wooden souvenir tokens from ONA and CNA Conventions that he attended, woods he won in door draws while attending coin club meetings and promotional woods passed on to him by others. Sixty-six had a NYCC connection and were retained by the club. It was determined that 139 had more than a minimum value. This included the hand painted woods of Lou Vesh and Garry Littrell, as well as some earlier issues and autographed woods by well-known numismatists that had passed away. These better woods were disposed of by auction at the CAWMC meeting that was held in conjunction with the CNA Convention in Quebec City.

In a showing of generosity, the executive of the North York Coin Club voted unanimously in favour of Paul Petch's motion to donate 50% of the remaining wooden nickels of around 1,600 from the Harvey Farrow Estate to other clubs of which he was an active member. This included the Scarborough Coin Club, Oshawa Coin Club, Mississauga-Thistleton Coin Stamp & Collectables Club and the Southern Ontario Chapter of CAWMC. Norm Belsten was asked to sort them into four piles of 200 each. The remaining 800 woods were used over an extended period of time in door draws and at auctions.

As I stated in the ONA Numismatist, official publication of the Ontario Numismatic Association, of which I was editor at the time: "We salute the members and the executive of the North York Coin Club for sharing their windfall with other clubs that were also attended by Harvey and were also close to his heart!"



Gold 1.5" dia.



Blue 1.5" dia.

Obverse used for  
the 1994 ONA  
Convention  
Hosted by the  
North York Coin



Black 1.75" dia

Obverse used for  
the 2004 CNA  
Convention  
Hosted by the  
North York Coin



Green 1.75' dia.



Blue 1.5" dia.




Green-blue ink 1.5' dia.

Illustrated are just six of the different woods issued by Harvey or for the North York Coin Club. The one in the lower right, issued as a personal wood by Harvey, shows his frugality. It was created by the use of a rubber stamp that did not involve the expense of creating a die.

*Carry a little bit of fellowship everywhere you go...*

(submitted by Judy Blackman)



Woods can be used for many purposes: promote events, promote businesses, trade discounts, celebration of life milestones, party favours, and much more. They can be particularly useful to help charitable and other good causes. I recently was surfing the net and discovered "pocket sponsor wooden nickels" in support of addiction recovery. The Pocket Sponsor® wooden nickel was originally developed to promote their book, The Pocket Sponsor, which is a meditation book for 24/7 support. The token proved to be so powerful at helping people during the HALT moments and so useful for sponsors that requests for them soared. They now sell for 12 cents each in lots of 100 but are given out free to those in recovery. They suggest "Put YOUR phone number on each token for your sponsees or newcomers!", as a quick and easy way to keep the contact info handy. Business cards get crumbled and misplaced easily, but a wooden token in the pocket is useful to rub as a reminder, but to also read to make contact. The wooden tokens last for years, whereas the paper cards are easily trashed. "The Pocket Sponsor Wooden Token is a great way to carry the message and gives the newcomer a constant reminder to call you before they pick up". They come with the Pocket Sponsor® message "Don't drink or drug" above the line for your phone number and on the other side is a recovery slogan that they won't soon forget. Use these as your "desire" tokens in helping those in recovery! They are also available as key chains. The term "Pocket Sponsor®" is a registered trademark. It may not be used or reproduced on any commercial or non commercial items or projects. All rights are reserved. It is a wonderful term and if you or your group want to use it on something, they will likely work it out with your group. Freedom from addiction to alcohol and other drugs is a reality for millions. Recovery from addiction happens every day in our neighborhoods, our communities and our country. Clean and sober people are all around you – they are at your workplace, at church, in your day-to-day life. What's call the recovering community is a rich group of diverse individuals – drawn together by our common pursuit of a happy life and of another day without a drink or a drug. It made me proud to see numismatists using their wooden token hobby to help others, and made me try to think how could I produce a wooden token with a message to help others. How about you, how can you utilize your knowledge of the hobby to help others?

[illegible]

# NEW DISCOVERY OF AN OLD WOOD

**Ross Kingdon showed me an old copy of “The Canadian Token” from 1972 that showed a car wash wooden token that is not listed so how many more woods are out there to discover.**

**Below is a scan of the wood, does anyone out there have any info on this issue?**





## MY WOODEN NICKEL'S WORTH.....by Lou Vesh

Several things went wrong in our household just before Christmas 2008; the TV gave up the ghost, the snowthrower broke down, and our electric furnace quit. Not very glad tidings, what with all that snow and cold we were having during our "Canadian Autumn". But we coped and got things repaired and/or replaced as necessary. During these crises, however, there was one bright light. It turned out that to rectify the furnace problem I had to visit the shop of a well known local electrician to purchase a new electrical breaker. I had done business with this man during my initial construction back in 1984 but had not had occasion to see him for all those years. Since that time, he relocated his residence and his shop. I sought him out and made my purchase. Upon leaving, I wished him a Merry Christmas and handed him my 2008 Christmas wood. With that, he opened his desk drawer and without any hesitation or searching, he pulled out a wooden nickel I had given him some 24 years ago, and proudly exclaimed, "Thank you, I still have the last one you gave me"! Needless to say, I was floored. It truly shows the lasting memory of so simple a gift as "one wooden nickel".

(file: Nworth84)



## MY WOODEN NICKEL'S WORTH.....by Lou Vesh

50 years have passed and I'm still writing about that disastrous day when production of the Avro Arrow aircraft and all its parts came to an abrupt end. Having reread my previous articles that accompanied issues of the wooden nickels marking the 25th (1984), and the 40th (1999) anniversaries of its demise, I am hard pressed to come up with any fresh material on the subject. Still, there is that lingering rumour that, when the cancellation was announced, one Avro Arrow, or a good part of one, was sneaked away and hidden in a barn in some remote area. Realistically, if it hasn't turned up after all these years, then it must be just that. A lingering rumour. Too bad. What a treasure it would be in a museum today!



As I recall, the cost of producing each Arrow aircraft was somewhere in the vicinity of two hundred million dollars. A tidy sum, even by today's standards. That may have been the overt reason given for its demise, but in later years I learned of other problems associated with the project. Political pressure from the U.S. played an important role in its cancellation. More importantly, a lax security system enabled vital data to leak out through a spy system into the hands of a foreign power. Not a proud moment for Canada.

On the historical side of Avro Arrow, some statistics, taken from an article in "Canadian General Aviation News", December 1993 issue, are: ".....the first prototype flight was completed on March 25, 1958, with test pilot Jan Zurakowski at the controls. On the 7th flight he exceeded 1,000 miles per hour!". Mr. Zurakowski is in the Aviation Hall of Fame.

Coincidentally, the first powered flight in Canada was made during the month of February, 100 years ago! John McCurdy piloted the Silver Dart over the ice covered Bras d'Or Lake near Baddock, Nova Scotia. That date was February 23, 1909.

My intentions to make another wooden nickel for the Avro Arrow fell by the wayside. I've been spending most of my home time shoveling snow this season. Maybe someone else will turn up with one?

(file: Nworth88)

